

TELEGRAPH



Naval Club of Toronto, 1910 Gerrard Street East, Toronto, ON M4L 2C1 Tel: 416-924-2811

info@navalcluboftoronto.com www.navalcluboftoronto.com

FALL / WINTER 2016 -2017

From the Bridge



President's Report - January 2017

Shipmates, our last Telegraph was back in June. That means that there is a lot to catch up on and a fair bit to tell you. I just hope that I can remember all the good things that went on over the last six months.

This being my virgin report for the Telegraph as President, I would like to thank S/M Michael Roger for his stewardship of the Club as President over the last four years.

I would also like to thank the membership for showing their confidence in me, by electing me to the position of President. I will try, along with the rest of the Executive, to get the members more interested in their/your Club, to get things moving

with a few more functions, and (hopefully) make a few more dollars to keep our head above water.

We had our usual Canada Day BBQ at the Club on the 1st of July. It turned out to be a great day! I don't have an exact count of the number of people that showed up, but Dave and I flipped about 50 hamburgers and hot dogs. Inside the Club, everyone was enjoying themselves! There were draw prizes donated by the breweries, ball caps, openers and a jacket (the normal SWAG) for Canada Day. I am not sure who won the jacket but it was a nice one!

The Club reduced its hours of operation from July till mid-September. We closed on Saturdays (often there have been no sales on Saturdays in the summer), and shortened the bar hours (12 p.m. until 8 p.m.). This saved the Club a lot of money!

On the 14th of August, the Club held another BBQ and Open House. This event was well-received by the membership and the neighbourhood. A photographer from The Beaches SNAP'D showed up at the Club for this function and we had a few pictures put in the paper. That was nice for a bit of publicity for the Club. The Club was also open after the Warrior's Day Parade for those who participated (the Colour Party and a few others). Other than that, August was pretty quiet as most people were on vacation or at the cottage.

On September 10th, there was a presentation in the Club on "Aging Well... A Physiotherapist's Perspective." put on by local physiotherapist, Patrick Mayne. He spoke about the importance of exercise, eating well, and mobility issues. All-in-all, a good talk. Unfortunately, this event was not very well attended. The ten or so people (four of them members of the executive) listened to a very informative talk and learned a few exercises and other things about keeping yourself mobile and supple while watching TV. On the 24th of September, we had a BBQ and Corn Boil. This event was well received with a large number participants enjoying the day. A reporter from the Beaches SNAP'D was there and lots of photos were taken and published in the paper. He was especially impressed with the way we buttered our corn. Dave was quoted as saying, "It's an old farmer thing".

October was a quiet month with just the usual Club activities going on: Whiskers, where the fare was the normal Octoberfest feast of Octoberfest sausage, sauerkraut, potatoes, greens and salad. A couple of meetings, and one rental for a birthday party.

On November 11th, our members took part in ceremonies around the City. I was at the Sunrise Ceremony in Prospect Cemetery, and the Wrens and the Colour Party took part in the ceremony at City Hall with S/M Gord Casey laying the wreath for the Naval Club. At 1430 we had the Club's Annual Remembrance Day ceremony. This was well-attended by members and guests alike. We also had our local MP and MPP in attendance. The Commanding Officer of HMCS TORONTO and her Coxswain, as well as the Commanding Officer of HMCS YORK and her Coxswain were aboard as well. All-in-all, it was a good turn out! November 20th was election day at the Club. The results were: President, Gord McLennan; 1st Vice, vacant; 2nd

Vice, David Shepherdson; Treasurer, Bill Middleton; House Director, Ron Sakki; and Sports and Entertainment, Charlie Ross.

December 11th was the Club Christmas Party. This was well attended - we had 51 members and guests (we counted this time) show up to wish each other a Merry Christmas. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, so it was a great afternoon. Part of that, I think, was that the Club looked as if it were Christmas! S/M Alex Kerr, and S/M Dorothy Fryer set up and decorated the tree. L/M Alan Simpson set to decorating the Club. He had some help from Alex and Dorothy and I held some tinsel for him, but the bulk of it was done by Al. S/M Ron Sakki was in the following day and he and S/M Jojo Coulson finished the decorating off, so we looked great for Christmas – the tree up the mast & the whole nine yards, You don't get more Navy than that! Thanks to all who helped!

Levée Day was a good day, but it appears the passion for the Levée is falling off. At one time, you could hardly move in the Club on Levée Day. Now, at points in time, you could swing a cat in the place (that expression refers to a "cat of nine tails", *not* the ship's cat!). Although the numbers were a little lower this year, everyone enjoyed the Moose Milk and camaraderie.

On January 21st, we held our Burns's Supper. It was a resounding success with fifty-five hungry diners in attendance. It started with the dinner being called to order by the MC (yours truly), and S/M Janet Watt said Grace. Then the highlight of the evening! The Haggis was piped in by Andrew Bennett (a former piper of the 48th Highlanders of Canada), S/M Charlie Ross, S/M Ken Kilgour, guest Haggis carrier Nathan MacDonald, and S/M Sue McLennan. Sue gave the address to the Haggis and a fine job she did. The crowd was quite pleased. There was the reading of Burns's poems as

entertainment during the evening. The poems were recited quite well considering I handed them to people about fifteen minutes before the dinner started. *Ta a Mouse* was recited by Leith Mason who could do the Scottish brogue, so it really sounded authentic. S/M Brad Boyle did Burns's *A Vision*, and one of our guests, Elisabeth Darnley, recited *My Love is like a Red, Red Rose*. All excellent recitals! S/M Sal Glass did the Toast to the Lassies and of course how good they all look. S/M Julia Sakki did the reply to the Toast to the Lassies. She was smart enough to Google it and came up with a great and witty response! This function all came about with the help of a lot of people. S/M Bill Middleton did the shopping for the veggies, I ordered and picked up the steak pies and haggis, S/M Debra and S/M David Shepherdson came down on Friday evening and peeled the spuds. S/M Jojo Colson donated her time in the galley, but the one who put it all together and co-ordinated everything as Chief Cook was L/M Alan Simpson! But more than likely the face you saw that kept you most happy was our Bar Steward Angie as she kept the joy flowing. This report is now getting too long so remember these upcoming events for February:

- Club Birthday Party and BBQ Saturday 4th of February
- The Band of HMCS YORK will do a recital in the Club starting at 1930 (7:30PM) on Wednesday, February 8th, so get there early to get a seat. If you haven't heard them before, don't miss your chance to listen to them now, as they are a very talented group of individuals. "Support our Sailors"

Yours aye,

Gord McLennan
President

1st Vice-President

Position presently vacant as Gord McLennan was elected as Club President

Second Vice-President

Shipmates,

Happy New Year!

I would like to welcome our new members: 5 Naval - Jackie Wells, Aaron Vijayon, Peter Baker, Denis Nguyen and Shebesh Shanmaganathan; 1 Associate - George Shantz; and 6 Social - Walter Wakulich, James Pratt, Greg Dotsch, Sandy Sullivan, Joe Kennedy and Margaret Tesky.

Paid membership as of Jan 1 2017 is	Life	3
	Honoury Life	6
	Naval	20
	Associate	10
	Social	24

It is past that time when membership dues are due. If you have paid your dues, "Thank you!"

As-per the General By-Law of the Naval Club of Toronto, Article VI section C 1 states that:

"Annual Dues are to be paid by or before the 1st of January of each year."

The most important reason is that the money collected for dues is used to pay the bills that start at the beginning of January - taxes, insurance, hydro, etc. If the dues have been paid, then we shouldn't have to draw on the Capital Fund. We are trying very hard to get your Club to run on its own, without going to the Capital Fund for money

for the day-to-day expenses. Your dues help to do this.

Again, if you have paid your dues, "Thank you!"

If you have not paid your dues, please pay them as soon as possible. You can come down to the Club and pay them or you can mail in a cheque. For those of you that have not paid your dues for 2015 you will be moved to the inactive file and will no longer receive Club information, emails and the Telegraph.

Thanks, and see you around the Club.

David Shepherdson
2nd Vice President



Treasurer's Chest

We said goodbye to 2016 on a happy note in the books for another year, extending the run of four years of successful control on the spending and wages. Four years ago, the club was spending \$160,000.00 on wages alone, along with another \$80,000.00 in unexplainable purchasing. This is in no way blaming anyone for misappropriation of funds.

We have now reduced the wages to a more reasonable amount of roughly \$50,000.00 per year, along with the spending which dropped by 25%. These measures have had to be put in place considering the present pattern that reflects the declining sales and membership in many organizations such as ours.

I am sure that members would love to have the doors open all the time, however, in the real world this is not possible. Look around -Legions are closing or merging; social clubs are closing; and Brotherhood clubs are having to sell off their properties and rent them back to stay afloat for a couple of more years. There are many reasons for these things but the most prevalent are the age and decline in membership of the groups.

Here is the good news from 2016, besides the large saving above: last year the club's activities and shorter hours (along with closing on holidays, weekends and Saturdays) allowed us to come in under forecasted budget by \$13,000.00.

A good Levée and Robbie Burns dinner, coupled with upcoming events in February, mean that 2017 is off to a very good start. Nevertheless, there may be some hiccups along the way and knowing that, we must find more savings in wages and hours.

One thing that we may try is to hold events at the club on Saturdays, instead of Sundays, as the club is already open and staff is there on duty already. Another is that we may be able to look at the Saturdays and increase the number of months that we close on Saturdays, unless there is an event that is planned.

Bill Middleton
Club Treasurer

House Director

Thank you everyone who attended the last couple of events at the club. They were a success! It's an honour to be the House Director for 2017.

The stuff JoJo and I have been doing around the club are fixing and putting up shelves behind the bar and in the galley. The sound system was crowded behind the bar, so it was moved out into

the club where anyone can use it to listen to the radio, television or compact discs. I encourage people to bring their CDs and give them a listen. I would also like to thank Michael, Al and Rodney who help around the club daily. Some of the larger jobs I would like to do must be postponed due to my injury.

Thanks, and see you at the club!

Ron Sakki
House Director

SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Shipmates, my name is Charles Ross, your new Sports and Entertainment Director. I hope all of you had a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Over the holiday season, the club hosted the Whiskers Christmas dinner, the Club Christmas party and Levée day. All the functions were well attended and everyone was in the (moose milk) spirit of the season! In the new year, the Club hosted January's Whiskers dinner and the ever-popular Robbie Burns dinner. As before, those in attendance had a fine time.

In the future, the Club Executive hope to up our game and give you more opportunities to come on down and enjoy yourself with your mates. All this depends on you! The more the merrier, and the easier on the budget if you use the Club more often. Keep your eyes skinned on the web site and calendar in the coming months for further entertainment information. Of course, you can always phone the Club and the friendly staff will inform you of upcoming events.

Here is a short list of upcoming events for February:

Saturday 4 February 2017 - Naval Club's 82nd Birthday Party & Open House (along with Valentine's Day, Family Day, Flag Day).

Please download the attached poster for more details.

Wednesday 8 February 2017 – HMCS York's Band members will be showcasing their many and varied musical talents in their 5th annual musical presentation at the Naval Club.

Time – 1900 (7:00 pm) for a 1930 start.

A poster will be sent next week.

Tuesday 21 February 2017 – Whiskers Men's Club Dinner.

Time – 1800 for a 1900 start.

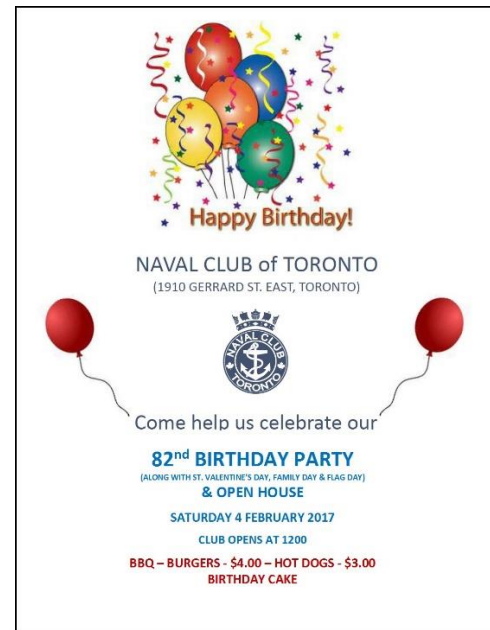
(N.B. one week later to keep wives & sweethearts happy on Valentine's Day!)

So, suggestions are always welcome, and I hope to see you more often this year.

Charles Ross
Sports and Entertainment Director

Announcements

S/M Norm Fraser, is now over at Providence Villa and has a phone number 416-285-4480 Ext 7476





Last Post

The following shipmates recently crossed the bar ...

Naval

James Hawthorne - 1 January, 2016

Charles Grimwade - 1 April, 2016

Mildred Thompson - 8 October 2016

Social

Robert Fraser - 25 January, 2016

Details are published on our website.

*For though from out our bourn of time and place,
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.*

Alfred, Lord Tennyson



NAVAL COMMUNITY NEWS

Happy Holidays from Vice-Admiral Ron Lloyd, Commander Royal Canadian Navy

Navy News / December 20, 2016

As 2016 rapidly comes to a close, our thoughts naturally turn to the upcoming holiday season and to the new year ahead.

It can be difficult for each of us to take a breath during this busy time, to take stock of how far we have come this past year. So let me take this opportunity to congratulate all of you who serve in, and have enabled the success of, the Royal Canadian Navy this past year.

It has been an exciting and rewarding year.

As members of one of the few globally deployable navies, you have made a difference for Canadians by keeping drugs off the streets of Canada and the United States by intercepting them in the Caribbean. You have demonstrated exceptional interoperability above, on, and below the sea with domestic and international partners and allies alike. Your agility and flexibility reacting to the sortie of a Russian naval task group, delivering hope and supplies after an earthquake in New Zealand, or answering NATO's short notice request for submarine support, are just some of the many examples of your exceptional professionalism and service to Canada.

I am also very cognizant of the fact that it is only as a result of the love and support of our families that we are enabled to enjoy the success that we do. Their sacrifice and service is truly inspirational and I most sincerely thank them from the bottom of my heart for all that they do.

As we all get busy with the demands of the holiday season, it can be all too easy to miss the signs that a shipmate, friend or loved one may be struggling to cope. Let's all be sure to look out for each other, and remember to take some time to relax and rejuvenate for the demands that 2017 will surely have in store for us.

On behalf of the leadership team of the RCN, the Command Chief Petty Officer and I wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season, a very Merry Christmas and a fantastic New Year.

*Yours aye,
Ron Lloyd
Vice-Admiral
Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy*

First CFB Esquimalt jetty bids below estimate; biggest project on Island

Andrew Duffy / Times Colonist

December 24, 2016 06:00 AM



The two jetties at CFB Esquimalt were built during the Second World War and are considered to be well past their service lives. In this 2005 photo, the Iroquois-class destroyer HMCS Algonquin is seen tied up at B jetty. Algonquin was sold for scrapping in November 2015. (Photograph by Ray Smith, Victoria Times Colonist)

The first construction phase of renewing the jetties at CFB Esquimalt could come in under budget, judging by the tenders submitted for what was expected to be a \$72-million job.

Chaired by Michael Morris of Defence Construction Canada, Thursday's public tender opening for the first phase of what will eventually be a \$781-million project resulted in four bids under the \$72-million mark.

"It appears we are well under the estimate we carried, so that's good news," said Rick Gudz, DCC's site manager in Victoria.

The lowest bid came from Westpro, a division of Quebec-based construction firm Pomerleau. It came in at \$55.45 million.

The other bids were \$61.8 million from EBC, \$68.9 million from EllisDon/JJM and \$69.2 million from Esquimalt Marine and Civil Partnership.

"This is a preliminary result," Gudz stressed, noting the winning bid now goes to Ottawa to be evaluated and assessed before it is awarded.

The award could be made public as early as January, with work expected to start in the spring after the winning company completes industrial-security clearance.

"This \$55-million project is a continuation of a long-term plan for major investment at CFB Esquimalt. This kind of investment translates to more demand, jobs and positive economic spinoff during construction for the capital region," said Greg Baynton, chief executive of the Vancouver Island Construction Association.

Baynton said that in the long term, over what could be an eight-year buildout of the jetty-replacement project, the result will be greater capacity and more ships, which is a massive economic win.

The \$781-million overall budget also will make it the largest construction project on the Island.

"Simply put, the region is the beneficiary of the activities of DCC and their client (the Department of National Defence). They are a primary contributor to our local and regional economy," Baynton said.

Gudz said this initial project, designed by Stantec, will involve preparation work on the foreshore of the site, dredging and deconstruction of B jetty.

"The next contract will be the more substantial piece," he said, noting that will be in the works for a couple of years.

It will involve rebuilding B jetty and the demolition and reconstruction of A jetty.

The new A and B jetty will be 307 and 277 metres long, respectively, compared with the existing jetties, which are 185 and 190 metres long.

Berthing space will increase by about a third to accommodate Halifax-class frigates as well as new vessels set to join the Pacific fleet beginning in 2018.

The jetty decks will be about 1.2 metres higher than the current decks to account for possible sea level rises due to global warming.

Davie prepares for refit of Canada's polar-class icebreaker



David Pugliese, Ottawa Citizen

Published on: December 28, 2016 | Last Updated: December 28, 2016 1:53 PM EST



This file photo shows the Canadian Coast Guard icebreaker Louis S. St-Laurent making its way through the ice in Baffin Bay on July 10, 2008. JONATHAN HAYWARD / CP

The Davie shipyard is freeing up dock space for new projects, including a refit and modernization of the federal government's polar icebreaker.

The Quebec-based Davie had built a number of ships for the oil and gas industry but the economic slowdown in that sector caused original owner of those vessels to declare bankruptcy. One vessel had been delivered already. And earlier this month Davie delivered another of the vessels to its new owner. The vessel was about 75 per cent built.

Moving the hull out of the Davie yard will allow the company additional room to start on new projects, the firm noted.

Davie says those new projects include the scheduled refit and modernization of Canada's polar icebreaker – CCGS Louis St Laurent – which is due to arrive at the shipyard in the new year.

The Battle of the Atlantic Memorial

Courtesy of the Oxford County Naval Veterans' Association



The memorial is located on the grounds of HMCS Prevost, the Royal Canadian Navy Reserve Division in London, Ontario. The memorial is a dramatic monument composed of 25 granite stones spanning over 300 metres along a hillside. Each stone is engraved with the name of an individual Royal Canadian Navy ship which was lost during the Battle of the Atlantic.



Each stone is also engraved with the image of the ship, its hull number, and the date the ship was lost. The stones are set in chronological order along the hillside. Each stone is over a quarter tonne of blue granite.

HMCS FRASER
 HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN
 HMCS REGINA
 HMCS BRAS D'OR
 HMCS OTTAWA
 HMCS ALBERNI
 HMCS MARGAREE
 HMCS LOUISBOURG
 HMCS SKEENA
 HMCS OTTER
 HMCS WEYBURN
 HMCS SHAWINIGAN
 HMCS LEVIS
 HMCS ST. CROIX
 HMCS CLAYOQUOT
 HMCS WINDFLOWER
 HMCS CHEDABUCTO
 HMCS TRENTONIAN
 HMCS SPIKENARD
 HMCS ATHABASKAN
 HMCS GUYSBOROUGH
 HMCS RACoon
 HMCS VALLEYFIELD
 HMCS ESQUIMALT

MTB- MOTOR TORPEDO BOATS



MTB 460 July 1st 1944
 Lost to a mine in the English Channel.
 10 men were lost

MTB 463 July 7th 1944
 Lost to a mine in the English Channel
 No lives lost.

MTB 459, MTB 461, MTB 462
 MTB 465, MTB 466
 February 14th 1945

On the afternoon of February 14, 1945, disaster struck the Canadian 29th Motor Torpedo Boat flotilla during the Second World War. In advance of a patrol that night, many of the sailors were asleep on their boats docked in Ostend, Belgium. Spilled

fuel that had ended up floating on the surface of the harbour suddenly ignited and, before an alarm could even be raised, a raging fire quickly spread amongst the closely-moored vessels. Fuel and ammunition supplies exploded as boat after boat caught fire. Many of the men were trapped on board and had no escape as even the water was aflame.



By the time it was over, the 29th flotilla had lost 26 Canadian sailors and five of eight of its vessels were destroyed. An estimated 35 British sailors and seven Royal Navy vessels had also been lost. Motor torpedo boats (MTBs) were small warships about 22 metres long and six metres wide. Equipped with powerful engines, torpedoes, light naval guns and machine guns, the Canadian MTBs operated chiefly at night in the English Channel as fast attack boats that disrupted enemy shipping off the coast of occupied Europe, and defended Allied shipping from the German's own fast attack boats and midget submarines. The MTBs also played an important role on D-Day when they helped protect the huge Allied fleet from German warships.

The MTB crews had an extremely dangerous job – their boats were small; the seas of the English Channel were rough and German guns and mines were never far away.

Canadian Navy frigate sets sail for NATO's Operation Reassurance



Photo: Royal Canadian Navy

Royal Canadian Navy's Halifax-class frigate HMCS ST. JOHN'S left her home port on Wednesday and headed for the Mediterranean Sea where it will join NATO's Standing Maritime Group 2.

Departing from the naval base in Halifax, ST. JOHN'S set sail for Operation Reassurance to replace sister ship HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN which has been serving with SNMG 2 since July 2016.

St. John's is the sixth Royal Canadian Navy ship and the fourth modernized Halifax-class frigate to deploy in support of NATO assurance measures in Europe since April 2014.

The ship's last international deployment was in March 2012 when the ship deployed on Operation Caribe, Canada's contribution to Operation Martillo, a multinational campaign to counter trans-national criminal organizations in the Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Sea.

HMCS ST. JOHN'S completed the Halifax-class modernization/ frigate life extension program in October 2015 during which the ship was fitted with a new combat management system, new radar capability, a new electronic warfare system upgrade, upgraded communications and missiles,

as well as a new integrated platform management system.

The frigate conducted high readiness training as part of Spartan Warrior 16. The ship then conducted a successful Evolved Sea Sparrow missile shoot in late November as part of high readiness preparations for Operation Reassurance.

Naval Funny

A lady comes home from her doctor's appointment grinning from ear-to-ear. Her husband asks, "Why are you so happy?" The wife says, "The doctor told me that for a forty-five-year-old woman, I have the breasts of an eighteen-year-old." "Oh yeah?" quipped her husband, "What did he say about your forty-five-year-old ass?" She said, "Your name never came up in the conversation."

Editor's Notes:

Some of the articles are courtesy of the Oxford County Naval Veterans' Association, Naval Association of Canada News, and Navy News

Yours aye,

Editor: S/M John Anderson (Sparker John)

Email: yorkmatelot@rogers.com

Naval Club Website:

www.navalcluboftoronto.com